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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/729,864	12/05/2003	Todd D. Wakefield	5137	8495

64100 .7590 03/07/2007
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EXAMINER

LIE, ANGELA M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2163

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/07/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/729,864

Applicant(s)

WAKEFIELD ET AL.

Examiner

Angela M. Lie

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 December 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-6, 9-12, 14, 15, 30 and 31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-6, 9-12, 14, 15, 30 and 31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. **Claims 1, 4-6, 9-12, 15, 30 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Poibeu et al (US Publication No. 20040073874).**

As to claim 1, Poibeu discloses a computer program product located to one or more storage media devices usable to perform integration of free text with coded data, the computer program product comprising instructions executable by a computer to perform the functions of: accessing database of data records containing both structured data and unstructured data (paragraphs 3 and 58), the unstructured data including at least some free text (paragraph 3), the unstructured data relating to the structured data

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of the data record in which the unstructured data is found (as shown in Fact_DB as indicated below); extracting multi-dimensional relational facts from the free text (i.e. company, date, location etc; paragraph 34), the multi-dimensional relational facts including a plurality of attributes (as shown in table in paragraph 34); identifying role relationships in the relational facts; integrating the relational facts with the structured data (as shown below Fact_DB); and storing the integrated data on a computer-readable storage medium (paragraph 58).

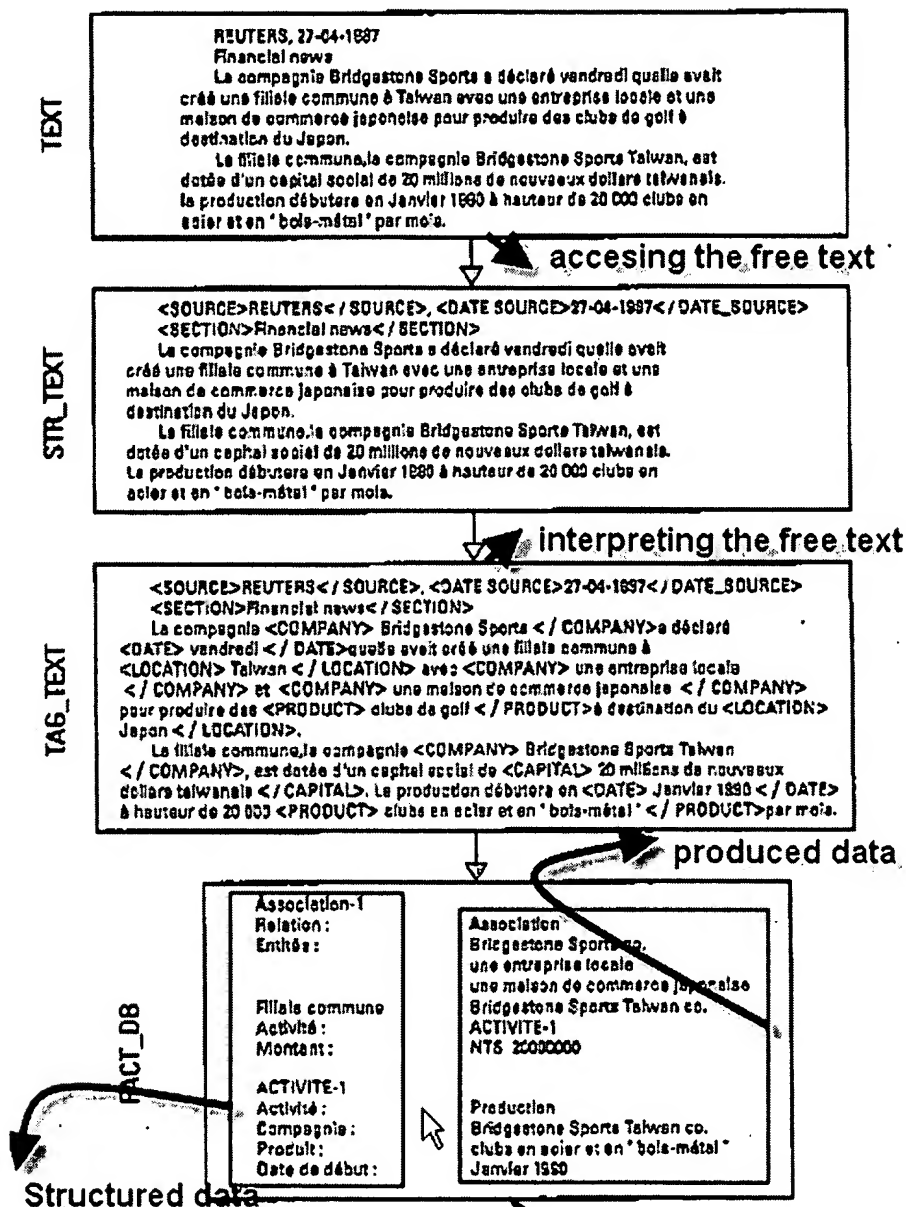


Fig. 4 Product of Integration

As to claim 4, Poibeu discloses a computer program located on a computer human readable medium wherein the instructions are further executable to perform the function of applying caseframes while performing the extracting step (paragraphs 28 and 37).

As to claim 5, Poibeu discloses a computer program located on a computer human readable medium wherein the instructions are further executable to perform the function of producing a new database (paragraph 23, wherein forming separate file is equivalent with forming a database) containing the integrated data.

As to claim 6, Poibeu discloses a computer program located on a computer human readable medium wherein the instructions are further executable to perform the function of inserting the produced data into the database of structured data and unstructured data while performing the integrating the produced data (paragraph 57).

As to claim 9, Poibeu discloses a computer program located on a computer human readable medium wherein the instructions are further executable to produce a file containing the integrated data produced by the integrating (paragraph 23, wherein the database is interpreted as file).

As to claim 10, Poibeu discloses a computer program located on a computer human readable medium wherein the instructions are further executable to produce a file having a format selected from the group of XML, character separated values, spreadsheet formats and file-based database structures (paragraph 22).

As to claim 11, Poibeu discloses a computer program located on a computer human readable medium comprising: a processing unit coupled to the one or more storage media devices, the processing unit being capable of executing the instructions (paragraph 22, lines 1-2); and an execution command unit, whereby operation of the instructions and the processing unit may be commanded or controlled (the software for processing free text provides the set of instructions performed by the processing unit).

As to claim 12, Poibeau discloses a computer program located on a computer human readable medium wherein the instructions are further executable to store an integrated data to an integrated database (paragraphs 23 and 58).

As to claim 15, Poibeau discloses a computer program located on a computer human readable medium wherein the instructions are further executable to render a visual representation all or a part of the integrated data (paragraph 22, lines 1-3, since the computer has a monitor and memory on which the integrated data is stored, the apparatus has a capacity to display the data).

As to claim 30, Poibeau discloses a method for creating an integrated data product comprising the steps of: accessing database of data records containing both structured data and unstructured data (paragraphs 3 and 58), the unstructured data including at least some free text (paragraph 3), the unstructured data relating to the structured data of the data record in which the unstructured data is found (as shown in Fact_DB as indicated below); extracting multi-dimensional relational facts from the free text (i.e. company, date, location etc; paragraph 34), the multi-dimensional relational facts including a plurality of attributes (as shown in table in paragraph 34); the extracting step including applying caseframes to the free text (paragraphs 28 and 37; wherein the certain patterns are considered caseframes); identifying role relationships in the relational facts (as shown above Fact_DB); integrating the relational facts with the structured data; and storing the integrated data on a computer-readable storage medium (paragraph 58).

As to claim 31, Poibeu discloses w method further comprising the step of using the integrated data to perform data analysis (paragraph 53, further the integrated information are viewable by a user who in fact can read (i.e. analyze) content of the text).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over**

Poibeu et al (US Publication 20040073874) in the view of Smith et al (US

Publication 20030061212). Poibeu teaches all the limitations presented in claims 1

and 16, respectively, however his disclosure lacks the teaching about data mining on

the integrated data. Smith teaches a method for analyzing data, comprising the step

data mining of the extracted portion of the data (paragraph 22). It would have been

obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art during the time the invention was made to

use data mining as taught by Smith on the integrated data as taught by Poibeu

because data mining of the obtained relevant information can allow for pattern

monitoring (Smith, paragraph 19) which in fact can simplify analyzing collected data.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed December 31, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

7. With respect to the applicant's assertion on page 10 stating that the present invention extracts multi-dimensional relational facts and Poibeau's reference does not perform this function, the examiner disagrees. Poibeau clearly teaches in paragraph 34, that many attributes (i.e. multi-dimensional facts) are extracted from the document such as company name, date, location, product etc.

8. Furthermore, the applicant alleges that Poibeau fails to teach extraction of "role relationships", the examiner would like to note that in paragraph 58, Poibeau clearly discloses of how relations are utilized. Moreover, the applicant did not define what role relationship is, the instant specification rather contains examples of what those relationships might be. The examiner would also like to note that according to U.S Patent examination procedure, the specification should not be read into the claims, therefore the examples of what role relationships could be are not part of the claims.

9. With respect to the applicant's assertion on page 10 arguing that Poibeau does not teach extracting "form", the examiner is not certain what the applicant meant by stating, "extracting multi-dimensional relational facts form said free text". The applicant is advised to correct this deficiency so the scope of the claim is clear and definite.

10. Furthermore on page 11, the applicant alleges that Poibeau does not disclose accessing a database containing records of mixed structured and unstructured data, the examiner disagrees. In paragraph 28, Poibeau discloses that the structure of document

is taken into account, wherein this document contains tile, header (i.e. structured data) and free text (from which additional information is extracted).

11. In the last argument, applicant states that Poibeu fails to teach extract relational facts from the unstructured data and relate them to the structured data, the examiner however disagrees with this assertion. Poibeu teaches in paragraphs 28-31 that the unstructured data is mixed with structured data (i.e. header etc), further in figure 4 FACT_DB shows integrated structured and unstructured data (i.e. unstructured data related to structured data).

The Prior Art

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- US Patent 6292771 discloses a method for language processing and encoding of a free text into a medical database.
- US Patent 5715468 discloses storing and retrieving data in natural (free text) language.

Conclusion

13. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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14. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Inquiry

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Angela M. Lie whose telephone number is 571-272-8445. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

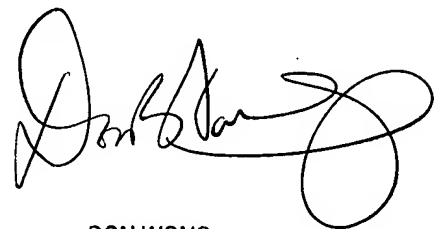
16. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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17. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Angela M Lie



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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